

**ondine**



**For Immediate Release**

## **MRSA Nasal Decolonization License Received from Health Canada**

### **Ondine Introduces Non-Antibiotic Alternative for Prevention of Superbug Transmission**

**VANCOUVER, BC, March 19 2007** – Ondine Biopharma Corporation (TSX: OBP; AIM: OBP) today announced that it has received a Health Canada license for expanded use of the Periowave™ photodisinfection system. The new indication is for decolonization of pathogenic bacteria such as methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) in the nose.

“Approval of our new photodisinfection system for nasal pathogens is a significant milestone, as it enables us to introduce cost-effective solutions that have the potential to decrease the rate of nosocomial (hospital) infection, while avoiding development of antibiotic resistance”, said Carolyn Cross, President and CEO of Ondine Biopharma. “Ondine intends to proceed with post-marketing trials in hospital settings in British Columbia throughout the balance of the year, and expects first revenues from this indication in the second half of 2008. We are truly excited to expand the use of this effective, painless and fast-acting technology into the medical and hospital markets.”

#### **About MRSA and Antibiotic Resistance**

The MRSA ‘superbug’ has become resistant to most antibiotics. Approximately 95% of all patients with an MRSA infection do not respond to first-line antibiotics. If the bacterium enters the bloodstream, nearly half of these critically ill patients will die despite access to potent antibiotics. Healthy people (including hospital healthcare workers) carry MRSA bacteria in their noses and on the skin, and inadvertently pass it on to others or self-infect by sneezing, breathing, or by touch-based transfer. More than 2 million hospital acquired infections occur each year in the U.S.

Antibiotic resistance is becoming a growing concern; it is crucial that new non-antibiotic modalities to fight bacterial infections are developed. According to a Centers for Disease Control (CDC) report, antibiotic resistance is ‘one of the world's most pressing public health problems’. Over the last decade, almost every class of bacteria has become less responsive to antibiotics and the burden on the healthcare system related to treating antibiotic resistant infections exceeds \$8 billion in both the U.S. and U.K.

### **About Periowave™ and Photodisinfection (PDD)**

Periowave™ is a Photodisinfection system developed by Ondine that utilizes low-intensity lasers and wavelength-specific, light-activated compounds to specifically target and destroy microbial pathogens and reduce the symptoms of disease. The compounds are generally topically applied and one or more lasers are used to activate the compounds and complete the disinfection. The Photodisinfection technologies were developed by Professor Michael Wilson and colleagues at the Eastman Dental Institute, University College London, and licensed to Ondine by UCL Business PLC, University College London. Additional information about Periowave™ is available at [www.periowave.com](http://www.periowave.com).

### **About Ondine Biopharma Corporation**

Ondine is developing non-antibiotic therapies for the treatment of a broad spectrum of bacterial, fungal and viral infections. The Company is focused on creating and commercializing leading-edge products utilizing its patented light-activated technology. Photodisinfection provides broad-spectrum antimicrobial efficacy without encouraging the formation and spread of antibiotic resistance.

The Company is headquartered in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, with a research laboratory in Redmond, Washington, USA, a sales and marketing subsidiary in York, Pennsylvania, and an international office in St Michael, Barbados. For additional information, please visit the Company's website at: [www.ondinebiopharma.com](http://www.ondinebiopharma.com).

#### *Forward-Looking Statements:*

*Certain statements contained in this release containing words like "believe", "intend", "may", "expect" and other similar expressions, are forward-looking statements that involve a number of risks and uncertainties. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in the Company's forward-looking statements include the following: market acceptance of our technologies and products; our ability to obtain financing; our financial and technical resources relative to those of our competitors; our ability to keep up with rapid technological change; government regulation of our technologies; our ability to enforce our intellectual property rights and protect our proprietary technologies; the ability to obtain and develop partnership opportunities; the timing of commercial product launches; the ability to achieve key technical milestones in key products and other risk factors identified from time to time in the Company's filings.*

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